

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH



OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

THE RIGHT REVEREND HORACE W. B. DONEGAN, C.B.E., D.D., D.C.L.
BISHOP OF NEW YORK

THE VERY REVEREND JOHN V. BUTLER, S.T.D.
DEAN OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH

THE REVEREND EDWARD N. WEST, D.Th., Litt.D.	CANON SACRIST
THE REVEREND HOWARD A. JOHNSON, D.D.	CANON THEOLOGIAN
THE REVEREND HAROLD R. LANDON, B.D.	CANON PRECENTOR
THE REVEREND PETER CHASE, S.T.B.	CANON PASTOR
THE REVEREND BRUCE McK. WILLIAMS, Mus.M., S.T.B.	ASSISTANT MINISTER
THE REVEREND MAXWELL McN. THOMAS, M.A., B.D.	HONORARY CHAPLAIN
ALEC WYTON, M.A., ORGANIST	LYLE HAGERT, Mus.M., ASSISTANT ORGANIST

A FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS
AND BLESSING OF THE MANGER
DECEMBER THE TWENTY-FOURTH
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND SIXTY-ONE
AT FOUR O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON

This Service, after ancient precedent, is set forth by the
Bishop of New York for use in his Cathedral Church.

¶ *After the Procession has entered, this Hymn shall be sung.*

HYMN

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

Choir

All

OF the Father's love begotten,
Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega,
He the source, the ending he,
Of the things that are, that have been,
And that future years shall see,
Evermore and evermore!

2 O that birth for ever blessèd,
When the Virgin, full of grace,
By the Holy Ghost conceiving,
Bare the Saviour of our race;
And the Babe, the world's Redeemer,
First revealed his sacred face,
Evermore and evermore!

3 O ye heights of heaven adore him;
Angel hosts, his praises sing;
Powers, dominions, bow before him,
And extol our God and King;
Let no tongue on earth be silent,
Every voice in concert ring,
Evermore and evermore!

4 Christ, to thee with God the Father,
And, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving,
And unwearied praises be:
Honor, glory, and dominion,
And eternal victory,
Evermore and evermore! Amen.
Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 5th cent.

¶ *Then shall the Bishop, from the Cathedra, say this Bidding Prayer:*

THE BIDDING PRAYER

DEARLY Beloved in the Lord, be it this Christmas Eve our care and
joy to prepare to hear again the message of the Angels, and
ready ourselves in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and
find the Babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger:

Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving
purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the
glorious Redemption brought us by this Holy Child: and let us
make this Cathedral Church, dedicated to the Disciple whom he
loved, glad with our songs of his praise:

But first let us pray for the needs of his whole world; for peace
and goodwill over all the earth; for unity and brotherhood within
the Church he came to build, that in all things it may work according
to his will, serve him faithfully, and worship him acceptably:

And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us at this time remember in his name the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry, and the oppressed; the sick and them that mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love:

Lastly let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no man can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one:

And now, brethren, summing up all our petitions, and all our thanksgivings, in the words which Christ hath taught us, we make bold to say,

OUR Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE Almighty God bless us with his grace: Christ give us the joys of everlasting life: and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. *Amen.*

INVITATORY

From The Christmas Oratorio

Bach

AND there were shepherds in the same country, abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night. And lo, an angel of the Lord stood by them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them and they were sore afraid.

BREAK forth, O beauteous heavenly light,
And usher in the morning;
Ye shepherds, shrink not with affright,
But hear the angel's warning.

This Child, now weak in infancy,
Our confidence and joy shall be,
The pow'r of Satan breaking,
Our peace eternal making.

John Rist, 1641

¶ *After this the Congregation shall sit for all the Carols and the Lessons, save those noticed by special Rubrics.*

THE FIRST LESSON

(God announceth in the Garden of Eden that the seed of woman shall bruise the serpent's head.)

Reader: A CHORISTER

AND they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden. And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou? And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself. And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat? And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat. And the Lord God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat. And the Lord God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life; And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

Genesis 3:8-15

THE Lord at first did Adam make
 Out of the dust and clay,
 And in his nostrils breathed life
 Even as the Scriptures say.
 And then in Eden's Paradise
 He placed him, to dwell,
 That he within it should remain
 To dress and keep it well.

*Now let good Christians all begin an holy life to live
 And to rejoice and merry be for this is Christmas Eve.*

2 And then within the garden
 He commanded was to stay,
 And unto him in commandment
 These words the Lord did say:
 "The fruit which in the garden grows,
 To thee shall be for meat,
 Except the tree in the midst thereof,
 Of which thou shalt not eat."

3 "For in the day that thou shalt eat,
 Or do it them come nigh;
 For if that thou dost eat thereof
 Then surely thou shalt die."
 But Adam he did take no heed
 Unto that only thing,
 But did transgress God's holy law,
 And so was wrapt in sin.

4 Now mark the goodness of the Lord
 Which he for mankind bore,
 His mercy soon he did extend,
 Lost man for to restore;
 And then for to redeem our souls
 From death and hellish thrall,
 He said his own dear Son should be
 The Saviour of us all.

English Traditional Carol

THE SECOND LESSON

*(God promiseth to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall
 all nations of the earth be blessed.)*

Reader: A GENTLEMAN OF THE CHOIR

AND the angel of the Lord called unto Abraham out of heaven the
 second time. And said, by myself have I sworn, saith the Lord,
 for because, thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son,
 thine only son: That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying
 I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand
 which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of
 his enemies; And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be
 blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.

Genesis 22:15-18

CAROL

Arr. Pearsall

IN dulci júbilo!
 Let us our homage show
 Our heart's joy reclineth
 In præsepio!
 And like a bright star shineth
 Matris in gremio
 Alpha es et O!

O Jesu parvule!
 My heart is sore for thee!
 Hear, I beseech thee,
 O puer Optime
 My prayer, let it reach thee,
 O princeps gloriæ!
 Trahe me post te!

O patris charitas!
 O nati lenitas
 Deep were we stained
 Per nostra crimina
 But thou hast for us gained
 Cœlorum gaudia
 O that we were there!

Ubi sunt gaudia, where,
 If that they be not there?
 There are angels singing
 Nova cantica
 There the bells are ringing
 In Regis curia,
 O that we were there.

German, 14th Century

THE THIRD LESSON

(Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah.)

Reader: THE MASTER OF CHORISTERS

THE people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined. For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, the everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever.

Isaiah 9:2, 6, 7

CAROL

German

I KNOW a rose-tree springing
Forth from an ancient root,
As men of old were singing.
From Jesse came the shoot
That bore a blossom bright
Amid the cold of winter,
When half-spent was the night.

O Flower, whose fragrance tender
With sweetness fills the air,
Dispel in glorious splendour
The darkness everywhere;
True man, yet very God,
From sin and death now save us,
And share our every load. Amen.

German, 1599

THE FOURTH LESSON

(The prophet in exile forseeth the coming of the glory of the Lord.)

Reader: THE ASSISTANT MINISTER

ARISE, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee. And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising. The multitude of camels shall cover thee, the dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; all they from Sheba shall come: they shall bring gold and incense; and they shall shew forth the praises of the Lord. The sun shall be no more thy light by day; neither for brightness shall the moon give light unto thee: but the Lord shall be unto thee an everlasting light, and thy God thy glory.

Isaiah 60:1-3, 6, 19

ANTHEM

Handl

ALL they from Saba shall come, gold and frankincense bringing,
and praises to the Lord announcing! Alleluia!

THE FIFTH LESSON

(The Angel Gabriel saluteth the Blessed Virgin Mary.)

Reader: THE PASTOR

AND in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, to a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary; for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: and he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end. And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.

St. Luke 1:26-33, 38

CAROL

Basque

THE angel Gabriel from heaven came,
His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;
"All hail" said he, "thou lowly maiden Mary,
"Most highly favoured lady," Gloria!

For know a blessed Mother thou shalt be,
All generations laud and honour thee,
Thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold,
"Most highly favoured lady," Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,
"To me be as it pleaseth God," she said,
"My soul shall laud and magnify his holy Name."
"Most highly favoured lady," Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ was born
In Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,
And Christian folk through-out the world will ever say—
"Most highly favoured lady," Gloria!

THE SIXTH LESSON

(St. Matthew telleth of Christ's Holy Birth.)

Reader: THE PRECENTOR

THE birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with Child of the Holy Ghost. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily. But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

St. Matthew 1:18-21

SING lullaby! Lullaby baby, now reclining,
 Sing lullaby! Hush, do not wake the Infant King.
 Angels are watching, stars are shining
 Over the place where he is lying. Sing lullaby

Sing lullaby! Lullaby baby, now asleeping,
 Sing lullaby! Hush, do not wake the Infant King.
 Soon will come sorrow with the morning,
 Soon will come bitter grief and weeping. Sing lullaby

Sing lullaby! Lullaby baby, now adozing,
 Sing lullaby! Hush, do not wake the Infant King.
 Soon comes the cross, the nails, the piercing,
 Then in the grave at last reposing. Sing lullaby

Sing lullaby! Lullaby is the babe awaking?
 Sing lullaby! Hush, do not stir the Infant King.
 Dreaming of Easter, gladsome morning,
 Conquering Death, its bondage breaking. Sing lullaby

THE SEVENTH LESSON

(*The Shepherds go unto the Manger.*)

Reader: THE SACRIST

AND there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

St. Luke 2:8-16

CAROL

Stewart

ON this day earth shall ring
 With the song children sing
 To the Son, Christ the King.
 Born on earth to save us
 Him the Father gave us.

3 His the doom, ours the mirth,
 When he came down to earth
 Bethlehem saw his birth,
 Ox and ass beside him,
 From the cold would hide him.

*Ideo, Ideo, Ideo,
 Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

2 God's bright star, o'er his head,
 Wise men three to him led,
 Kneel they low by his bed,
 Lay their gifts before him,
 Praise him and adore him.

4 On this day Angels sing,
 With their song earth shall ring
 Praising Christ Heaven's King
 Born on earth to save us
 Peace and love he gave us.

Old Swedish Carol

THE EIGHTH LESSON

(The Wise Men are led by the Star to Jesus.)

Reader: THE DEAN

WHEN Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judæa, in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east and are come to worship him. When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judæa: for thus it is written by the prophet, And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people, Israel. Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, enquired of them diligently what time the star appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also. When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh. *St. Matthew 2:1-11*

¶ *The Congregation shall stand.*

CHORALE

Nicolai

HOW bright appears the Morning Star,
With mercy beaming from afar;

The host of heaven rejoices;
O Righteous Branch, O Jesse's Rod!
Thou Son of Man and Son of God!

We, too, will lift our voices:

Jesus, Jesus!

Holy, holy, yet most lowly,

Draw thou near us;

Great Emmanuel, come and hear us.

Philip Nicolai, 1597

THE NINTH LESSON

(St. John unfoldeth the great mystery of the Incarnation.)

Reader: THE BISHOP

IN the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth. *St. John 1:1-5, 9-14*

Here endeth all the Lections of our Redemption.

¶ *The congregation will follow after the Bishop as he goes forth to Bless the Manger.*

AT THE PROCESSION, HYMN 236

IRBY

- O**NCE in royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby
In a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.
- 2 He came down to earth from heaven,
Who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable,
And his cradle was a stall;
With the poor, and mean, and lowly,
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.
- 3 And, through all his wondrous childhood,
He would honor and obey,
Love, and watch the lowly maiden
In whose gentle arms he lay;
Christian children all must be
Mild, obedient, good as he.
- 4 For he is our childhood's pattern;
Day by day like us he grew;
He was little, weak, and helpless,
Tears and smiles like us he knew;
And he feeleth for our sadness,
And he shareth in our gladness.
- 5 And our eyes at last shall see him,
Through his own redeeming love;
For that child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in heaven above;
And he leads his children on
To the place where he is gone.
- 6 Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
We shall see him; but in heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high;
When like stars his children crowned,
All in white shall wait around.

HYMN 28

REGENT SQUARE

- A**NGELS, from the realms of glory
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye, who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:
- 3 Sages, leave your contemplations;
Brighter visions beam afar:
Seek the great Desire of nations;
Ye have seen his natal star:

¶ *Come and worship, ¶*
Worship Christ, the new-born King.

- 2 Shepherds in the field abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing;
Yonder shines the infant Light:
- 4 Saints before the altar bending,
Watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending,
In his temple shall appear:

AT THE MANGER, THE PRAYER

ALMIGHTY God, who hast poured upon us the new light of thine incarnate Word; Grant that the same light enkindled in our hearts may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE BLESSING

AFTER THE BLESSING, CAROL (*sung kneeling*)

HOLY NIGHT

- S**ILENT night, holy night,
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant so tender and mild,
¶ Sleep in heavenly peace. ¶
- 2 Silent night, holy night,
Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing alleluia:
¶ Christ, the Saviour, is born! ¶
- 3 Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
¶ Jesus, Lord, at thy birth. ¶ Amen.